

Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. (703) 351-7676

George V. Lauder Director, Public Affairs

14 March 1985

Note to the DCI:

The American Legal Foundation wants to honor you because you have stood up so well to unfair media attacks. While we agree that indeed you have, Stan Sporkin and I also agree that you should decline for the reasons stated in the letter attached for your signature.

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George **y**. Lauder

Attachment

Central Intelligence Agency



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Mr. Michael P. McDonald General Counsel American Legal Foundation 1705 N Street, N.W. Suite 300 Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. McDonald:

I am deeply touched by your offer to have a testimonial dimner in my honor. It is flattering indeed to think that my perseverance in the face of occasional unfavorable media treatment is considered "admirable."

I believe, however, that such public tribute would be inappropriate so long as I occupy my current position. A certain amount of undesired media treatment comes with the territory and must be expected. I long ago made my peace with that. More to the point is that as the head of a clandestine organization, I would neither be comfortable at being put on public display in this way nor could I rationalize it as being in the best interest of the institution.

I am nevertheless honored by your consideration even though I must decline. Moreover, I applaud ALF's insistence on balanced media treatment of public issues and I extend my personal best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Yel William J. Care,

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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E. R. - Please register and send to George Lauder

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AMERICAN LEGAL FOUNDATION

1705 N STREET, N. W. SUITE 300 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036 202-857-0400

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March 4, 1985

Mr. William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

The American Legal Foundation (ALF) is a national nonprofit public interest law center that regularly appears in court and before federal regulatory agencies in legal actions designed to promote greater media fairness, accuracy and responsibility.

For each of the last two years, ALF has held a formal "black tie" testimonial dinner here in Washington to honor individuals who, in our view, have demonstrated admirable perseverence and courage in the face of unfair media attacks upon their personal lives or careers.

Because you have repeatedly suffered unjust and slanted treatment at the hands of the media, I feel it would be particularly appropriate for an organization such as ours to sponsor a tribute to you. Accordingly, I am writing to inquire whether you will allow us the honor of feting you sometime in the fall of this year.

The dinner we are proposing, to reiterate, would be an occasion to comment upon your unfair media victimization. Equally important, however, it would be an appreciation of your important contribution to society and a celebration of the resoluteness you have repeatedly displayed in overcoming all obstacles an irresponsible media has placed in your way.

I hope you will say "yes" and agree to this request. If so, the precise scheduling details can be worked out at that time. Because you may know little about ALF, I am enclosing a variety of background information.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Michael P. McDonald

General Counsel

MPM: lw Enclosures